

VIKING SAGA

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Grand Island Northwest High School
Grand Island, Nebraska

Life After
High-School

Fast food chains are steering you wrong!



ALEX STOCKER
CO-EDITOR

We've all seen those annoying Subway rotisserie chicken ads on T.V. which ends with "...our chicken raised without the use antibiotics." I have one question for you, Subway...what's wrong with antibiotics?

Common fast food chains such as Subway, Chipotle, and Chick-Fil-A are sounding the alarm when it comes to the meat they use in your food. In October 2015, Subway Restaurants updated their Antibiotic - Free policy.

"By the year 2025, all protein that the company receives will be antibiotic free," Subway's Antibiotic Free press release said.

Chipotle Restaurants have taken a hard stance against both meat raised with antibiotics and crops that are genetically modified.

"We take a hard stance on

animals that receive hormones and antibiotics and won't serve them in our stores," a statement from Chipotle's website said.

However, companies like this have the story all wrong.

"Antibiotics are given to people and animals to treat or prevent certain illnesses caused by bacteria," an article from South Dakota State University said.

Would you like to suffer through an infection of some sorts without using antibiotics? In a day and age where people are concerned with how humanely animals are being treated, why isn't giving antibiotics being considered the right thing to do?

"Animal antibiotics make our food supply safer and people healthier," an article from The Animal Health Institute said.

Not all animals need antibiotics to survive, however, most will eventually get treated for something at some point in their life.

So again I ask: what's

wrong with giving our animals antibiotics?

Government agencies like the USDA and FDA set strict regulations when it comes to meat protein from animals. Every vaccine and antibiotic used in animals has a withdrawal period, or the period of time it takes for the drug to leave the body system of the animal. Some drugs have a withdrawal period of 30 days, some 60 days, and some 90 days depending on the drug. In order for an animal to be processed at a slaughterhouse, it must have waited out the withdrawal period.

This precaution is taken so that the drug may not still remain in the meat of the animal and get to you the consumer. So, do you know what that means? It means that the meat you consume is 100% safe for you to eat! So, I challenge you now educated people to continue to spread the word about how safe your meat actually is and to NOT BELIEVE the hype of antibiotic-free meat.

Pearls of Wisdom from Alex Stocker



ALEX STOCKER
CO-EDITOR

Dear students,
I want to give you, the students, some of my pearls

of wisdom so that you may continue to prosper in your time at Northwest.

To the seniors, WOW we survived, well almost... From coming into Northwest as the low man on the totem poll to going out on top. We have survived a different bell schedule every year, multiple teachers, and administrators. We have survived the ACT, NeSA, and other required testing. We have filled out so many applications for scholarships and for colleges, but hey, we're still here and alive. Don't give up just yet, we only have a few more weeks to go!!!

To the juniors, you are so close so don't give up. Next year you

will be the top dogs of Northwest. There are multiple things that you will need to do your senior year. Like: decide where you want to go for college, what you want to do with your life after school, and fill out a ton of scholarship applications.

To the sophomores, next year you will be closer to the being at the top of Northwest. You will have some more responsibilities and things to do during your junior year like: the ACT, NeSA tests, and other required testing. You also get to start having more choices for classes you want to take during your junior year.

To my freshmen, you guys are a pretty good group of kids! I have gotten to know some of you pretty well, and I will miss not being able to make fun of you during FFA meetings or at FFA events, or our after school runs to Dairy Queen, and even just going

different places around town. Your future looks bright, so don't mess it up! You know who you are...

I know I'm going to miss Northwest a lot; it's hard not to miss it and everyone here. I've been given so many great opportunities at Northwest; I've gotten to meet a lot of great people and make so many great friends. My advice to all underclassmen is to enjoy the present moment as much as you can, because, sooner than later, you will be looking back at all of the memories you've made during high school.

Be nice to your teachers, coaches, and activity sponsors because they are the ones who can open so many doors for you and who can inspire you to try your hardest and do great things.

One last thing... Thank you Northwest and to all within for four AMAZING YEARS!

VIKING SAGA

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The GRACE foundation makes an impact in the area

JENNIFER CLEMENT
CO-EDITOR

Cancer takes the lives of millions of people around the world every day. Around 9,000 of those people live in Nebraska. Though this disease has ripped families apart and dramatically changed people's lives, it does not mean that a person, cancer patient or family, should give up hope. However, hope does not pay the bills. In central Nebraska, there is an organization there to help: The GRACE Foundation.

In 2008, the GRACE Foundation was created by cancer patients [and survivors] Lisa Willman and Julie Pfeifer. Willman and Pfeifer brainstormed a method to raise funds and provide support for other cancer patients in the Grand Island area. The foundation started out small, but grew in numbers and became more popular. Once a year, they host a popular race in Downtown Grand Island that brings in hundreds of participants each year.

The 6th annual Race for GRACE, presented by CHI Health/Saint Francis, took place on April 2nd in Downtown Grand Island.



The Race for GRACE is, shocker, a race. There were two options offered to those signed up, the 10K [6.2 miles] and, for those wanting a more "family friendly" race, the 2-Mile Family Fun

Run.

Over the last six years, the race became a big deal in the Grand Island area. It is sponsored by over fifty businesses such as Hornaday, T-Shirt Engineers, Raising Cane's, and many other businesses.

Even though Race for GRACE has reached its conclusion, that does not mean one can not still donate or help. A company can participate in Jeans for GRACE, a day of work where the workers wear jeans and a t-shirt. School volleyball teams can also participate in Aces for GRACE, where a home game dedicated to the cause.

The GRACE Foundation has given many people in central Nebraska hope for tomorrow. With all the money it raises, cancer patients can now pay for some of their medical bills and other expenses. This foundation has helped hundreds of families in the area, and as the foundation grows, so does the hope of those affected by cancer.

Skills USA allows students to gain knowledge in their vocations

CELESTE THOMPSON
STAFF WRITER

Northwest tries its hardest to let the students "shine". The school does this by providing many clubs for students' diverse interests. One of many of those clubs is Skills USA. Keith Dubas is the proud advisor of Skills USA.

"Skills USA is a Student Leadership Program focused on helping students gain job skills," Dubas said.

There are more than 13 different categories dealing with Skills USA.

"[Some categories are] hands on building, carpentry, interviewing, medical, team events, cosmetology, diesel, cabinetmaking, CO₂ cars, welding, architecture, drafting, and fire fighting

to name a few," Dubas said.

Their state competition is at the end of April. "The Skills USA's competition is April 20th through the 22nd, and we compete on April 21st," senior Austin Dammann said.

Dubas really enjoys helping with something that the students like being a part of.

"My experience has been very positive! I enjoy watching the students pursuing their passions!" Dubas said.

Unfortunately, Dubas runs into some problems when students have questions or problems with something he doesn't know much about.

"It has been challenging to answer questions for students competing in areas that are not my

strengths," Dubas said.

The students that are a part of Skills USA are sad to hear that this is Dubas' last year as the advisor of the organization.

"With Dubas leaving, I do not know if the future of this program will go on. Hopefully [science and computer science teacher Jeff] Paige will continue this great program," Dammann said.

Many have had a great experience.

"[My experience] has been amazing. Last year at state, being our first time there, was really fun; it was a sgreat experience," Dammann said.

Skills USA will soon have a website and Twitter account available for more information.



Alumni Milan Bish and Trent Holcomb compete in Teamworks at State Skills USA in 2015.
PHOTO COURTESY OF KEITH DURAS.



Junior Brennan Sargent, alumnus Tyson Trejo, and senior Blake Grossart compete in Welding, 2015.
PHOTO COURTESY OF KEITH DURAS.



Skills USA members gather for a group picture at last year's state Skills USA competition.
PHOTO COURTESY OF KEITH DURAS.

Dream significance

MITCHELL EVANS
STAFF WRITER

When you fall asleep, your subconscious takes over. Sometimes you go flying through space, climbing Mount Everest, or even running from monsters in a nightmare. Have you ever wondered why you dream the things that you do? Ever wondered what your dream meant? Well, there is a whole psychological side to dreams and what they could mean.

One thing that people ask themselves when they have a nightmare is: "What the heck did I just dream?" According to Psychology Today, "nightmares will most likely be influenced by an event currently happening in your life. Nightmares are most commonly caused by stress, anxiety, or trauma. When you have a recurring dream/nightmare with the same theme, it can most likely be your subconscious telling you that you are ignoring a stressful situation in your life and that you are avoiding it."

Most of the time when a person dreams, they think that what they dreamt about has no meaning, and is just simply your subconscious making some ridiculous movie in your head while you sleep. That can be quite the opposite. Most of the time when a person dreams, that dream is your subconscious' way of telling you something about your life that you may be unaware of. So, the next time you have an interesting dream, think about what it means and what it could be trying to tell you.

Five Most Common Dreams:

- **Dying in a Dream-** This can most often mean that you have anxiety, or are confused about the overall idea of death.
- **Falling-** This means that you are holding on to something too much when you are awake.
- **Flying-** This can mean that you have finally let go of something that has been holding you back for a time.
- **Being Naked in Public-** This can mean that during the day there is a situation in your life that is making you feel vulnerable or exposed.
- **Being Chased-** This means that there is a situation in your life that you want to confront but may be a little hesitant to.

Prom affects body image

LACIE NELSON
STAFF WRITER

Prom: The one night of the year that every girl should feel beautiful. In some cases, the perfect dress can give any girl confidence, but in others, not finding the right dress can leave young women feeling discouraged and negatively about their bodies.

So what is it about prom that can shape a girl's body image? Many young women feel the need to look "perfect" for the night to be perfect.

"I spent about \$600 on a dress. I think it's important to wear what makes you feel confident; if you aren't wearing something you feel good wearing, the rest of the night will be ruined by being self-conscious. But, even if you're in the most gorgeous dress in the world, it doesn't mean that it's going to magically make you feel good. You have to open yourself up to being confident," senior Lauren Rookstool said.

On top of spending large amounts of money and time getting the perfect dress, many girls still don't feel quite comfortable because they are not perfect. This can lead girls to go as far as to wear shapewear underneath dresses. But, according to an interview with psychiatrist Doctor Elizabeth Vannucchi on WREG News, this can have a negative effect on teenage girl's physical health as well as her mental health.

"It might cause them anxiety if they perceive they have defects with their bodies and they're trying to cover them up," Vannucchi said.

While the dress can have an impact on a girl's body image, that's not all. Having a date to prom is a necessity for some girls, and for some, not getting a date could mean not going—or not having a good time.

"I probably would not go to prom without a date. Having a date for prom is normally

more fun, better for pictures, and it's nice to have someone at prom that is there specifically for you. [It would be] kind of [awkward to go without a date]. You can dance with your friends, but it's not quite the same thing as having a date," junior Carissa Jonak said.

However, for some others, this is not the case.

"It was exciting getting asked to prom, but I definitely don't think that having a date is the most important thing about prom. I would have gone to prom without a date—and I don't think it would be awkward to go alone. I think you can have just as much fun without a date," junior Maddie Beran said.

But for those who do not think like this, being alone on prom night can hurt a girl's self esteem. According to Jacquelyn Ekem, founder and CEO of eatingdisorderhope.com, this can leave girls thinking that they have a problem with their bodies.

"For the student who feels left out or perhaps does not have a date to prom, these fears, doubts, and uncertainties can be internalized and projected towards their body. They may question what is wrong with their appearance or body or find themselves comparing with their peers who they idolize or look up to," Ekem said.

For so many, prom can be a wonderful experience—a night filled with fun and laughter. But for some, it only brings fears, doubts, and negative thoughts about themselves. Prom should not be a night for students, namely young girls, to feel discouraged and unhappy. However, without confidence and a good self-esteem, it may turn out to be that way.

"When you're confident it's easier to let loose and have fun. I feel like whatever dress you wear, you have to have the attitude to match. Every dress can look pretty great with a smile," Rookstool said.



FBLA students attend State Leadership Conference

AUSTIN FRANSISCO
STAFF WRITER

The students in FBLA truly are the Future Business Leaders of America. Recently several students involved in the FBLA were able to attend the Nebraska State Leadership Conference in Omaha.

"The State Leadership Conference or SLC is where all the chapters in Nebraska take competitive tests. You take a test, and depending on how you score on your test, you can get awards. If you get first in your event you can go on to nationals in the summer, and you go compete in those events at the national level," FBLA sponsor Lori Cooper said.

There were seven students from Northwest that attended SLC this year. These students were seniors Allie Carlini and Heather Pohlmeier, juniors Arthan Bhatt and Sierra Holliday, sophomores Taryn Mayfield and Brent Lucke, and freshman Hunter Stephens.

"For the SLC, we have a point system, so if we have too many kids going we can look at the points to decide; what you get points for is attending meetings or other events, helping with the bake sale, helping with the school store, but this year because we were only taking seven it wasn't a problem," Cooper said.

The students that were able to attend SLC

enjoyed the experience.

"I loved SLC; you basically just hangout at the hotel, take tests, and talk to people the whole time. My favorite part was getting to meet lots of new people and going to the dance," Mayfield said.



Senior Heather Pohlmeier, sophomore Taryn Mayfield, sophomore Brent Lucke, junior Sierra Holliday, freshman Hunter Stephens, senior Allie Carlini, junior Arthan Bhatt, and sponsor Lori Cooper attend SLC in Omaha.

Photo courtesy of Lori Cooper

SLC provides a learning experience and can help test the skills of those who attend the conference.

"The convention is always a good way to test your business skills and to see where the

state organization is at as a whole when it comes to our goals. I always try to take what I learn to help improve and make our chapter better for next year," Bhatt said.

Pohlmeier and Carlini were able to get eighth place in hospitality management at the event. Cooper expressed her pride in the students she took to the event as well as the FBLA in general.

"I'm very proud of the group that I took to SLC. As a teacher and an advisor I had duties that I had to do during tests and the job interview event, so I was not around my students very much for this conference, but I feel that they are responsible enough that I didn't have to worry about it. Actually, everybody in FBLA right now is a good group of kids; they work hard, and they have great ideas and follow through with ideas," Cooper said.

FBLA is available for any student wanting to partake in it.

"I definitely think more people should be involved in FBLA. It's easy to join and can be a fun group to be a part of as well as a fulfilling group to be a part of if you are willing to be active," Pohlmeier said.

FBLA has allowed students to have many great experiences.

FFA students bring home recognitions from state

JENNIFER CLEMENT
CO-EDITOR

When living in an agricultural community, it is normal to be familiar with the high school program Future Farmers of America (FFA). FFA, for those unaware, is a high school program that teaches students about leadership, friendship, teamwork, and [obviously] agriculture. It is open to all students, not just farmers, and is known to be an enjoyable experience at Northwest High School.

In April of this year, Northwest FFA members traveled to Lincoln, Nebraska to attend the 88th State FFA Convention. The students attended several workshops that were available. All were held in several venues such as the University of Nebraska-Lincoln East Campus, Pinnacle Bank Arena, and several hotels in Lincoln's Haymarket.

"For state FFA, we stay in Lincoln for three days. [While there] we go and learn a lot of different things [at the workshops they host there]. My team of four: Alex Stocker, Sara Kruse, Cianna Piercy, and myself were selected to compete in

Nursery and Landscape. We had some other teams going down as well. It is just a lot of fun," senior Macey Kroeger said.

With hundreds of other students from around the state gathering at one place, Northwest students use this opportunity to meet others with their interest. They form long lasting relationships with the other students that are involved in FFA.

"I have been going there for the last four years, so it was something that I have been used to. The main part is that it is fun, and I get to see friends from other chapters. We get to all come together and learn how to advocate for agriculture, which is one of the things that we need to [in Nebraska and in the United States] teach kids about. That is just one place where we can all get together and know that there are people around and ready to help out, and we can be the next generation to take it on. I got my state degree this year, it was pretty cool. It was four years of knowing that I have worked hard for something. I am ready to be the next generation to take on agriculture," senior Taylor Hovie said.

RESULTS OF THE FFA STATE CONVENTION

NURSERY AND LANDSCAPE

TEAM SCORE- 468.00 RIBBON-RED
CIANNA PIERCY BLUE RIBBON WINNER
MACEY KROEGER RED RIBBON WINNER
SARA KRUSE RED RIBBON WINNER
ALEX STOCKER WHITE RIBBON WINNER

AGRONOMY

TEAM SCORE- 331.00 RIBBON-RED
JAY LAUB BLUE RIBBON WINNER
TAYLOR HOVIE WHITE RIBBON WINNER
GARRETT BYERLY WHITE RIBBON WINNER
KAYLYN MORSE WHITE RIBBON WINNER

AGRI-SCIENCE

TEAM SCORE- 758.00
KINSER WIEGERT RED RIBBON WINNER
PEYTON TRAUDT
COLE SUNDBERG
CADEN ISLEY

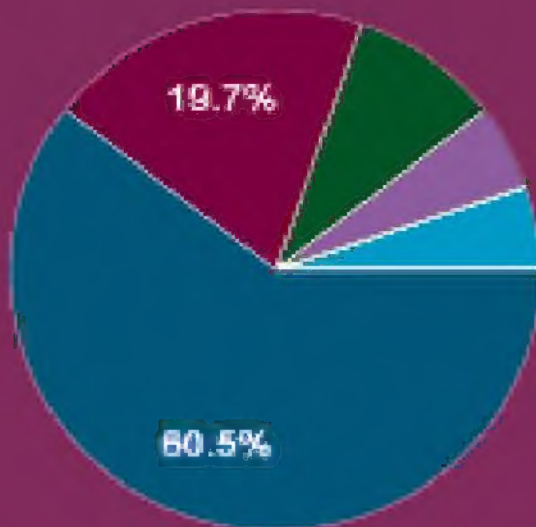
2016 STATE DEGREE RECIPIENTS

GARRETT BYERLY
TAYLOR HOVIE
MACEY KROEGER
ALEX STOCKER

CONGRATULATIONS

The many opportunities for

What are your plans after high school?



*out of 76 responses

College (4-year school) 60.5%

College (2-year school/Community College) 19.7%

Start at a community college to transfer to a four-year college/university 9.2%

Military 5.3%

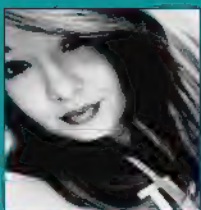
Entering the workforce (no college or military yet) 0%

Other 5.3%



Erik Cirila

"I'm going to the Young Americans. I'm going learn ballet, swing, and hip hop dances."



Calley Mayer

"Cosmetology is what I want to do. I want to do peoples hair, nails, and make people feel better about themselves."



Lauren Rookstool

"I plan on taking a year off to practice music. I want to end up in New York someday"

students after high school

Students join the military to serve

ALEX STOCKER
CO-EDITOR

Students, especially seniors, are trying to figure out what they want to do after high school. Some want to go to college, either private, public, or community. Some want to go straight into the workforce, while others want to answer the call from their country.

Some students want to join the military to help others.

"I wanted to join the National Guard so that I could help change the world," Ryleigh Brandt said.

Not only are there current students who are enlisting and joining in the military, but former Northwest students have also enlisted in the military. Some students and staff may remember Wyatt Lilienthal. Since graduating from Northwest in 2015, Wyatt has joined the U.S. Army.

"[I chose to join the military because] it's something I've always wanted to do. [I wanted to] serve my country, do my part for this country, and to better myself as a person," Lilienthal said.

Students like Phoenix Kalinski and Kip Jones joined the Army National Guard together.



Northwest seniors Kip Jones and Phoenix Kalinski kneel in front of a helicopter with other recruits. PHOTO COURTESY OF KIP JONES.

"I enlisted in the military because I want to serve the country that has provided for me. Just like JFK said 'Ask not what your

country can do for you, but ask what you can do for your country,'" Jones said.

There are certain height and weight restrictions for people to join the military.

"I was kind of surprised that there was a height and weight standard to join the military," Brandt said.

Nothing has really surprised Lilienthal thus far in his experiences in the military.

"Nothing really surprised me; I knew what I was getting into," Lilienthal said.

On the other hand, he did say he felt it was just hard adjusting to.

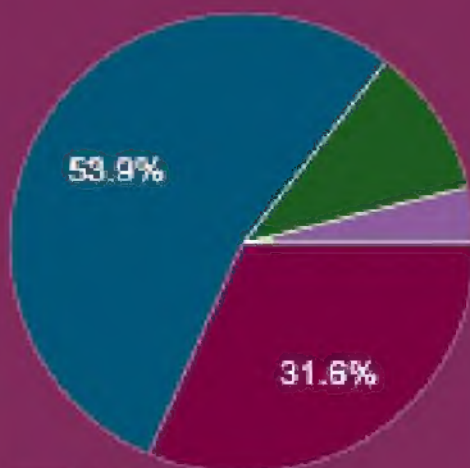
Being in the military can also help those who can't afford to go to college.

"I would definitely recommend it [enlisting in the military] to anyone who wants college to be paid for and who wants to travel a lot," Jones said.

Lilienthal plans on being a 19Delta (19D) Cavalry Scout.

"I graduate on June 2nd, then I will be off to Vilseck, Germany for 3 years," Lilienthal said.

How confident are you in regards to your future (post-high school) plans?



out of 76 responses

Completely confident: I KNOW that I am doing exactly what I want to be doing for my future! 31.5%

Somewhat confident: I feel pretty good about my future plans, but things might change. 53.9%

Not very confident: I'm not sure if I'm going on the right path yet. 10.5%

Not confident at all: I have NO idea what I should be doing!! 4.1%

Is baseball in danger of striking out?



BRENDEN HOLLING
STAFF WRITER

The game of baseball is dying, and it needs to be saved. Each year, fewer kids play baseball because they switch to other sports or not even go out for sports at all. Attendance is down at most Major League stadiums. The World Series is the only baseball game that seems to get any major media attention. Baseball just isn't as polarizing as it used to be.

First point, baseball is just overall boring. Nobody wants to watch nine players mostly stand around for three hours and maybe one or two exciting plays happen in the game. Most people want to watch football or basketball where all the players are active. Plays like slam dunks and touchdowns are more exciting to watch. Baseball is also boring because it's always on. 162 games are squished into a six month span. That means players only get three to four breaks a month and maybe one a week. People watch football and basketball more because it's

more of a special occasion since there aren't as many games.

Kids nowadays do not enjoy baseball because of the lack of variety in the sport. I remember when I played tee ball about ten years ago, there were eight or ten teams playing in the same age group. Now watching some of my younger cousins sign up, the groups barely have enough kids to get four teams. Even my brother couldn't join the older division because the organization didn't have enough people for one team. What happened in ten years that caused such a decline?

My reasoning behind this is there is a lack of diversity in baseball. In other sports, athletes like Stephen Curry and Odell Beckham Jr. have revolutionized the sport they play. There is nobody like that in baseball. Kids look up to athletes like that and try to recreate some of the things that they do, and baseball has not changed in a long time.

Recently, there has been a debate between

former and current baseball players about how they can express during the game. Like expected, the former players say that baseball is a classy sports and is ruined by all the rowdy antics that current players do. There just needs to be a switch in thinking and culture, and I think baseball should thrive again. The game has a great young core of talent and could become another "Golden Age" of baseball. It's too bad that the previous generation of players ruined the game by using steroids, and they tarnished the game for this generation.

Here's something to think about: ask your parents, grandparents, or anybody over the age of 30 what they remember about the game of baseball. They have probably at least one great story to tell about baseball. If they do, ask them why baseball was the most popular sport years ago and why they think it has changed. Hopefully, with each generation's perspective, baseball can be once again called "America's Favorite Pastime."

Northwest Spring Sports Results

Boys Soccer Record: 5-4

Notable Scores: Holdrege- Won 3-2 GICC-Won 4-0

"We have a very young team this year and it has taken us a little time to become a team, We are playing a lot better now than we did at the beginning of the season,"

-Coach Ann Purdy

Boys Golf

Notable Scores: Adam Mason- 80 at York Invitational 3rd Place, Scramble Team of Tito Alcorta, Nick Mohler, and Adam Mason finished 3rd in Division 1 and Scramble Team of Austin Bartlett, Brenden Holling, and Brennin Leach finished 2nd in Division 2 both at the Central City Scramble.

Girls Tennis Record: 3-0 (In Duals)

Notable Finishes: 1st at GICC Invite, 2nd at Ralston Invite

"The girls have competed well and work very hard in practice and have a great opportunity to be one of the top 5 teams in Class B in the state."

-Coach Lowery

Girls Soccer Record: 4-7

Notable Scores- Placed 3rd at the conference tournament. York W, 2-1 (shootout) Seward W, 3-1

"We are really starting to hit our stride late in the season. Hopefully, we can continue this momentum into the last few games and the district tournament."

-Coach Topil



Batman v. Superman misses the mark

AUSTIN FRANSISCO
STAFF WRITER

Batman v. Superman is a film directed by Zack Snyder, and it's a bit of a mess.

The plot revolves around Batman trying to find a way to defeat Superman because of the destruction in *Man of Steel* caused by Superman. Meanwhile, Lex Luthor tries to manipulate the two heroes. Also, Wonder Woman is there for some reason.

Right away one of the biggest problems with the movie is the writing. The first third of the film feels very discombobulated; it feels like a collection of random scenes that don't really tie together. It becomes more coherent later on, but then the movie struggles to give characters like Lois Lane something to do. The motivations for certain characters like Superman and Lex Luthor is unclear. It is never really explained well why Superman dislikes Batman.

Batman v. Superman also has very random moments where it tries to set up a Justice League movie. Whenever they try to show something that would be in the Justice League movie, it



Photo from comicbook.com

feels forced and out of place. Instead of focusing on the next film, *Batman v. Superman* should have tried to be its own movie.

The best part of the film, without a doubt, is Ben Affleck's Batman. Batman has the most going on for his character, and unlike most of the other characters, his motivations are clear.

During the fight scenes, he is brutal and adds personality to the character. He is probably the best version of the character, and he steals

the show whenever he's onscreen. This is in contrast to Henry Cavill's Superman who just does okay. Alfred, played by Jeremy Irons, has also done very well, and both he and Ben Affleck act off of each other very well.

In contrast to Batman, the worst character in the film is Jesse Eisenberg's Lex Luthor. In this movie, Lex Luthor isn't a smart and powerful businessman—but a younger, more eccentric, more awkward Lex Luthor. Whenever Lex Luthor shows up, he is annoying and out of place. Jesse Eisenberg should have played a character like the Riddler instead of Lex Luthor.

The actual fight between Batman and Superman is definitely the best scene in the film. When the action happens, it's brutal and entertaining. Although, it could have been longer, as only ten minutes of *Batman v. Superman* is Batman fighting Superman. Visually the movie looks really good, but the real problems that the film has are located in the script.

Basically you should see *Batman v. Superman* just for Ben Affleck and the fight. The rest of the movie is very messy, but the price of admission is worth it to see Batman hit Superman with a bathroom sink.

True Grit still remains a classic after remake

REILEY HILLMAN
STAFF WRITER

It seems very often nowadays that movies are either getting remade, rebooted, a sequel/prequel, or something to that effect. It also seems that most are either poorly written, or crudely executed. One movie from not too long ago stands out from the rest. The remake *True Grit* is one of the best remakes of the 21st century. Although it may be six years old, if anyone were to make a remake, this is how to do it.

For the 1969 classic, John Wayne had to play a "one-eyed fat man" before the Motion Picture Academy considered him worthy of an Oscar. In *True Grit*, Wayne plays a grumpy, pot-bellied U.S. marshal "Rooster" Cogburn, hired by 14-year-old Mattie Ross to find Tom Chaney, who killed her father. Mattie could have chosen any lawmen, but chooses the aging Cogburn because she believes he has "true grit". Also heading into Native American territory in search of Chaney is Texas Ranger La Boeuf, who wants to collect the reward placed on the fugitive's head for his earlier crimes.

Complicating matters are Chaney's insulting comrades Ned Pepper, Quincy, and Moon, who have no worries about killing a troublesome teenaged girl like Mattie.

While the plot of *True Grit* (1969), adapted by Marguerite Roberts from the novel by Charles Portis, maintains audience interest



Photo from popculturenerd.com

throughout, the glue that truly holds this Western together is John Wayne, giving one of his best performances. Wayne's casual charisma is far more effective than the mannered method acting

floundering non-acting of his other co-stars.

While the 1969 version of *True Grit* by Henry Hathaway is considered a classic in its own right, the 2010 remake by the Coen brothers sticks closer to the source material while adding the brothers' strong directing and more consistent acting performances from the cast as a whole.

In the 2010 version, fourteen-year-old Mattie Ross joins an aging U.S. marshal and another lawman in tracking her father's killer into hostile Native American territory in Joel and Ethan Coen's adaptation. Sticking more closely to the source material than the 1969 feature adaptation, the Coens' *True Grit* tells the story from the young girl's perspective.

Although many scenes seem to be word for word, there are differences, of course. The Coen brothers' version is more tasteful, familiar, and art-directed. Hailee Steinfeld's Mattie Ross is notably younger than the original and major sections of the picture are set at night.

Though, it may seem that there isn't a need to remake movies, if you do it right, the remake should be as accepted as the classic. The way *True Grit* is captured through the Coens' directing, it makes the 2010 adaptation a classic.

Astrology and Horoscopes and Zodiac Signs! Oh my!



REILLY HILLMAN
STAFF WRITER

Ahhhh astrology, not to be confused with astronomy, is literally the study of the movements and relative positions of celestial bodies interpreted as having an influence on human affairs and the natural world.

In other words, it means when the constellations and planets were in a certain position when you were born, those positions affect your personality and your characteristic traits.

I know it may seem crazy, but I really enjoy seeing if one person's personality really matches up with their astrology sign. In some cases it's not enough to just look at someone's Sun sign [which is the basic sign people usually say they are], but rather look at the different Houses. The Twelve Houses of astrology are symbolic of the all the departments that make up human life.

With all the things that go along with what goes into a person's horoscope, you'd think there'd have to be some truth in there. I believe that the majority of these are real, otherwise why would there be such a similarity within a group of people?

Although I know some of you may think it's just a bunch of nonsense, but if you took a little bit of time, you might find that your zodiac sign

and Houses match your personality.

To some all of this may seem like rubbish, but there are studies done that found a link between the season of birth and personality. It is proven that people born in the winter, i.e. Capricorns, are more at risk to suffer from SAD (Seasonal Affective Disorder), schizophrenia and depression. In astrology, Capricorn, beginning on the longest night of the year, is associated with suffering, difficulties and pessimism.

It may seem a bit complicated, which is understandable. I've been into this sort of stuff for years so it's easy to tell what possible Sun sign someone might be. If you think it's just a bunch of coincidences, you're probably an Aries or a Capricorn. Just kidding.

I personally find looking and digging into all of the houses and signs, and finding out what they mean, really fun. It's neat to see how your personality fits in with someone else's.

Although you may not be able to test astrology, it is still something fun to look into and believe in. It's not a religion or anything, so don't feel like if you want to start digging around and creating birth charts [also known as natal charts] for yourself and your friends, you don't need to give praise to Aries or Venus.

I find astrology a fun way to spend a few minutes on the web. I like looking for compatibility, what my horoscope might be,













what my personality should be, etc. I love astrology and all that goes into it. There are a lot of interesting posts that usually contain the phrase "The Signs As..." that I like reading, because it's funny to see what type of potato, or something else ridiculous, my Capricorn friend would be. It may seem a bit silly, but being the Pisces I am, I love it.

I know that the sun isn't going to affect if I find a five dollar bill on the floor, but knowing that "May is the season for luck for a confident Pisces" makes me want to feel more confident and hope something may come my way.

It almost feels like a placebo, where it told you something is going to happen so when a normal thing happens, it seems like a work of divine fate, but being human, it's nice to believe in something or expect something to happen.

Us humans don't understand we are in charge of very little things, so thinking that something good might happen, knowing we need to save our money, or need to avoid shellfish. It's relieving to, not depend on or rely on, but take it more as advice from an outside source.

Categorizing a certain type of people into a group based off the planetary system causing them to be born a certain way seems like an odd thing to get into. But we still wish on stars right? Doesn't that seem a little odd too?

 <p>Capricorn 22 December- 20 January</p> <p>The sun will be shining a spotlight on you. You will feel refreshed, and get in touch with your deepest and innermost feelings. You'll spend more time at home and with your family this month.</p>	 <p>Taurus 20 April - 20 May</p> <p>You should take a break from your fast track life and look back on the lessons you've learned this last year. After you do that, you might start taking time out of your day to be alone. It's better to finish projects and tie up loose ends now, than starting a new project.</p>	 <p>Virgo 24 August- 22 September</p> <p>You will close personal relationships on a deeper level. Personal transformations, intimate matters, and personal power will fulfil you most during this month. Your mood and frame of mind will be intense, maybe even secretive this time of year.</p>
 <p>Aquarius 21 January- 19 February</p> <p>This time of the year is when you're most likely to become a "busy bee" and a more ambitious person. Your curiosity will be peaked by many things, which will cause you to be more busy and do more running errands. If this is used well, this will be a period of solving problems and coming up with solutions.</p>	 <p>Gemini 21 May-21 June</p> <p>This month you are planning for the future. You are more mindful of the benefits of mingling and you might get great ideas from others. You also have been contemplating the rules you live by and might want to try something new.</p>	 <p>Libra 23 September- 22 October</p> <p>This month you will realize your need to form alliances and to give back to a special someone. Also, you need to find a way to compromise so you can balance your life. There might be some competitive feelings between you and a significant other now.</p>
 <p>Pisces 20 February- 20 March</p> <p>This is a more "financial" month for you. You will be more involved in materialistic things and your possessions that give you a sense of comfort. Be careful this month, and watch how much you spend on extravagant things, because you might form financial stress on yourself.</p>	 <p>Cancer 22 June- 23 July</p> <p>You'll feel satisfaction and fulfillment this month from doing your best at something. You'll feel like a responsible and capable person from contributing to the world in a practical way. You should avoid the entanglement of pride and arrogance blocking your success.</p>	 <p>Scorpio 23 October- 22 November</p> <p>You will tend to many details of your daily life such as: your work, various projects, organization around the home and office, your daily routines, and health matters. You will be more proud and creative than usual in your job.</p>
 <p>Aries 21 March- 19 April</p> <p>This month is full of restoration and it's that time of the year for you to gain new confidence in yourself. You'll find out what impression you have on others and will start a new personal project. You'll be a little more self-centered than usual but it will be natural unless you take it too far.</p>	 <p>Leo 24 July- 23 August</p> <p>This month you will seek to expand your experiences and perception through philosophical thinking, higher education, travel, or just activities that interest you. You may feel slightly anxious if you don't find ways to explore. You have an excellent chance to look at your future in a bigger perspective.</p>	 <p>Sagittarius 23 November-20 December</p> <p>Pleasure hunting and creative activities will grab your attention this month. Personally, you are charming in an impromptu, natural way. You are ready to perform and express your creativity and you're inspired creatively and emotionally.</p>
<p>CELESTE THOMPSON STAFF WRITER</p>		

Senior Spotlight

BRENDEN HOLLING
STAFF WRITER

Lauren Rookstool

Age: 18

Middle School: GICC

Activities: 14 Karat Gold, Musical,
A Cappella, Chamber Singers

Plans After High School: I plan to stay here
for a year to save up money and practice for
(performing arts school) auditions.

Advice: You are going to outgrow people. Some
of your best friends now may not be your
best friends when you are seniors.



Brandon Gannon

Age: 18

Middle School: Barr

Activities: Football, Track, IBA, and Netflix

Plans After High School: I plan to play
football at Doane next year.

Advice: Go Every Time So Others May
Everytime

Interesting fact: I have a cool belly button.



Congratulations to
Austin Fransisco for
qualifying for the state
journalism contest.



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- *Playground Program Activity Leaders*
- *Library Summer Worker*
- *Maintenance Worker - Heartland Public Shooting Park*

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